

**TOWNSHIP OF PEMBERTON  
REGULAR MEETING**

**January 20, 2016  
6:30 P.M.**

**FLAG SALUTE**

Council President Allen led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance, announced that notice of the meeting was given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, and followed by roll call.

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT**

Jack Tompkins  
Norma Trueblood  
Jason Allen

**ABSENT**

Letha Jackson  
Diane Stinney

Also present: Mayor David A. Patriarca, Business Administrator Dennis Gonzalez, Solicitor Andrew Bayer and Township Clerk Amy P. Cosnoski.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Council President Allen called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**CLOSED SESSION**

36-2016 Authorizes Council to go into Closed Session  
Employee Grievance – Ptl. White

Motion by Tompkins and Trueblood to adopt Resolution 36-2016. Tompkins, yes; Trueblood, yes; Allen, yes. Motion carried.

Council President Allen advised that there would be action pursuant to closed session. Solicitor Bayer read the resolution to be added into the record.

Motion by Trueblood and Tompkins to add Resolution 49-2016 to the Consent Agenda. Trueblood, yes; Tompkins, yes; Allen, yes. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Council President Allen opened the meeting up to general public comments. Seeing no one wishing to be heard the meeting was closed to the public.

**Anne Quinn, Country Lakes - 1.** Commented on retiring Police officers and where we are in hiring more. Mayor Patriarca advised they are making every effort to hire officers and replace those that have recently left but state that it is difficult with the civil service process. Ms. Quinn noted her concern is public safety. Mayor Patriarca advised the department is meeting the needs of the community. Ms. Quinn questioned if they are allowed to advertise for more candidates. Mayor Patriarca noted that it does not matter how much you advertise as you have to hire from the civil service list and cannot recruit. Councilman Tompkins asked about the options for hiring Police officers. Mayor Patriarca noted the only other option is to be out of civil service but that is a very difficult process. Council President Allen asked about the pros and cons of doing the second option out of curiosity. A discussion ensued on those pros and cons of civil service verses non-civil service. **2.** Ms. Quinn commented on the dams in Country Lakes being done and that being great but noted a pothole developing at the edge of the new paving. **3.** Noted that the \$4,069.98 for a TV is a little crazy high to her and is not saying the senior citizens should not get their TV but she wishes she had \$4,000 to spend on a TV. Mayor Patriarca noted that the pothole issue is being addressed. Mr. Gonzalez noted that the repairs will have to be done by the contractors and will not cause us any more money.

**America Phillips, Presidential Lakes - 1.** Commented on the injustice in giving only 3 minutes to the public to speak and noted she brought a timer with her. Stated when she came to the last meeting she did not know there was public comments and she came for nothing. Stated as a resident of this Township for 36 years she does not appreciate it. Stated she has talked to a lot of residents who told her they are not going to waste their time to come to the meetings. **2.** Questioned who oversees in Public Works and the issues with street signs. Council President Allen advised that if it is a Township road it would be the Public Works department head. Noted that she called Public Works to make them aware that at Uppermill Road and Oregon Trail the sign has been missing for a while and it has

now been replaced in the last 2 days. Commented on accidents on Route 70 and Police redirecting people through the development and they do not know where to go. Commented on the amount of time taken to put the sign up. 3. Noted that when the signs at the entrance of Presidential Lakes were painted the poles were not replaced and the post wobbles back and forth. 4. Questioned the status of the Presidential Lakes Firehouse. Mayor Patriarca noted he gave an update at the last meeting and that they are looking at 2 options. Noted that option #1 would be renovating the current building which would require a substantial amount of work and option #2 would be a new building and they are evaluating costs on that. Councilman Tompkins questioned if this would still house fire apparatus and a recreational facility. Mayor Patriarca noted that was correct and they hope to have their recommendation to Council in the very near future. Ms. Phillips commented on the building being sold to the Township with deed restrictions and commented on the length of time to get an ambulance to Presidential Lakes.

### **OTHER RESOLUTIONS**

37-2016 Recognition of Dedication of Public Service by Gregory Hale.

Council President Allen read the resolution into the record. Council thanked Officer Hale for his dedication and service to the Township.

Motion by Trueblood and Tompkins to approve Resolution 37-2016. Trueblood, yes; Tompkins, yes; Allen, yes. Motion carried.

38-2016 Recognition of Dedication of Public Service by Thomas Stewart II.

Council President Allen read the resolution into the record. Council thanked Officer Stewart II for his dedication and service to the Township.

Motion by Tompkins and Trueblood to approve Resolution 38-2016. Tompkins, yes; Trueblood, yes; Allen, yes. Motion carried.

39-2016 Recognition of Dedication of Public Service by Justin Kreig.

Council President Allen read the resolution into the record and thanked Officer Kreig for his leadership and service. Council President Allen asked if anyone from the Council or Public would like to say something.

**Anne Quinn, Country Lakes** - Thanked Officer Kreig for his service to the Township.

**America Phillips, Presidential Lakes** - Congratulated Officer Kreig and wished him good luck in the future and thanked him for all he has done.

Motion by Trueblood and Tompkins to approve Resolution 39-2016. Trueblood, yes; Tompkins, yes; Allen, yes. Motion carried.

**Consent Agenda: All items listed with an asterisk (\*) are considered to be routine by the Township Council and will be enacted by one motion. Should a Council Member wish to discuss a consent agenda item separately, that item can be removed from the consent agenda and considered in its normal sequence on the regular agenda.**

Councilman Tompkins asked to pull the Buildings & Grounds report from reports and communications and asked to pull Resolution 46-2016.

Motion by Trueblood and Tompkins to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. Trueblood, yes; Tompkins, yes; Allen, yes. Motion carried.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

#### **REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FILED WITH THE CLERK**

- a. Buildings & Grounds – 12/17/2015 – 1/6/2016 (*Pulled and considered later in the meeting*)
- b. Fleet Status – 12/24/2015 – 1/6/2016
- c. Streets & Roads – 12/17/2015 – 1/6/2016
- d. Water Division – 12/16/2015 – 1/5/2016
- e. Burlington County Municipal JIF – 2016 Assessment Allocation
- f. Police Reports - Overtime & Compensation December 2015

**CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS**

- 40-2016 Approving participation in the 2015 State of New Jersey Safe and Secure Federal Grant Program administered by the Division of Criminal Justice, Department of Law and Public Safety.
- 41-2016 Approving participation in the 2016 State of New Jersey Safe and Secure Federal Grant Program administered by the Division of Criminal Justice, Department of Law and Public Safety.
- 42-2016 Authorizing a CY2016 Shared Services Agreement between the Township of Pemberton and the County of Burlington for the provision of meals to seniors.
- 43-2016 Authorizing the cancellation of unexpended appropriations and other open balances.
- 44-2016 Authorizing the cancellation of unexpended appropriations and other open balances.
- 45-2016 Appoints Tyieshia James as Alternate Deputy Registrar.
- 46-2016 *Pulled from Consent Agenda and considered later in the meeting.*
- 47-2016 Authorizes Change Order #5 and final payment to the contract awarded to Loftus Construction, Inc. for the reconstruction of Country Lakes Dams.
- 48-2016 Authorizing the award of a contract to Professional Property Appraisers, Inc. for the Revaluation of Real Property in Pemberton Township as ordered by the Burlington County Tax Board.
- 49-2016 Denial of Grievance filed by Officer White.

**BILL LIST**

Approval by Council required for payment of vouchers on bill list dated 1/15/2015.

Motion by Trueblood and Tompkins to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. Trueblood, yes; Tompkins, yes; Allen, yes. Motion carried.

**REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FILED WITH THE CLERK**

- a. Buildings & Grounds – 12/17/2015 – 1/6/2016

Councilman Tompkins questioned who maintains the library's interior. Mayor Patriarca noted that the Township does all of the maintenance under the current contract with the County. Councilman Tompkins noted that there is a urinal missing in the men's room and asked if it could be fixed. Mayor Patriarca stated they would look into it and noted they unfortunately get vandals in the library that knock it down.

Motion by Tompkins and Trueblood to accept subsection (a) under Reports & Communication. Tompkins, yes; Trueblood, yes; Allen, yes. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTIONS**

- 46-2016 Authorizes the award of a contract to Carfax for services relating to car accident reports at no cost to the Township. *Pulled from Consent Agenda.*

Councilman Tompkins questioned what this was for. Mr. Gonzalez noted there were two options, one was to get through the Police Department or if you wanted it instantaneously you could get through Carfax at their cost. Noted that this was requested by the Police Chief.

Motion by Tompkins and Trueblood to approve Resolution 46-2016. Tompkins, yes; Trueblood, yes; Allen, yes. Motion carried.

**ORDINANCES FOR SECOND READING, PUBLIC HEARING AND/OR FINAL ADOPTION**

**ORDINANCE 20-2015**

AN ORDINANCE IN THE TOWNSHIP OF PEMBERTON AMENDING THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP TO REFLECT VARIOUS ZONING MAP ADJUSTMENTS TO IMPLEMENT THE MASTER PLAN REEXAMINATION REPORT ADOPTED SEPTEMBER 4, 2014.

Council President Allen opened the meeting to the public for comment and noted that the vote would be held at the second Council Meeting in February.

Seeing no one wishing to be heard Council President Allen closed the meeting to the Public.

Motion by Tompkins and Trueblood to table the vote for Ordinance 20-2015 until the February 17, 2016 meeting. Tompkins, yes; Trueblood, yes; Allen, yes. Motion carried.

#### ORDINANCE 1-2016

#### AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 25 OF THE ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PEMBERTON WITH RESPECT TO VOLUNTEER MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA OF THE PEMBERTON VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

Council President Allen opened the meeting to the public for comment.

**America Phillips, Presidential Lakes** - Questioned how the background checks would be done for volunteers from other towns. Council President Allen explained, as he was told by the Fire Chief, that if they were coming from another town they would have to already be trained and considered Class I Associates. A discussion ensued on where volunteers would potentially come from including the military base and Pemberton Borough. Ms. Phillips commented on the duty teams and being assigned certain dates to be available.

Seeing no other residents wishing to be heard Council President Allen closed the meeting to the Public.

Councilman Tompkins questioned Council President Allen about his conversation with Chief Augustoni regarding the classification of the volunteers. Council President Allen advised that the title he was given was Class I Associate and would be trained either as EMS or as a Firefighter. Councilman Tompkins advised that this should be in the ordinance. Mr. Gonzalez advised that this was an administrative determination that happens through the fire company and ultimately they would have to sign off on accepting the individual into the fire company. Councilman Tompkins commented on a specific section already listed about transfers from adjoining fire departments and he believes is already in our code. Mr. Bayer explained the differences and advised he would review what Councilman Tompkins is referring to.

Motion by Tompkins and Trueblood to table the vote for Ordinance 1-2016 until the February 17, 2016 meeting. Tompkins, yes; Trueblood, yes; Allen, yes. Motion carried.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Review, discussion and possible adoption of Council By-Laws.

Council President Allen asked if there was any further discussion about the by-laws. Councilman Tompkins stated he did not like the 3 minute rule. Mr. Bayer advised that the by-laws require a 2/3 vote of the Council to amend the by-laws and recommended tabling until the February 17th meeting. It was a consensus of Council present to table this discussion to the February 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Purchases over \$2,000

1. Public Works – for the purchase of software and 2016 maintenance from Tracker Software Corporation in the total amount of \$2,236.00.

Motion by Tompkins and Trueblood to approve the purchase of software and maintenance from Tracker Software. Tompkins, yes; Trueblood, yes; Allen, yes. Motion carried.

2. Public Works - for the purchase of 3017856 Diesel Particulate Filter for Ladder Truck #1815 from Giles & Ransome in the total amount of \$5,887.01.

Councilman Tompkins questioned the age of the ladder and the amount being spent. Mayor

Patriarca noted it was purchased in 2008 and was approximately \$750,000.00.

Motion by Trueblood and Tompkins to approve the purchase of Diesel Particulate Filter for Ladder Truck #1815. Trueblood, yes; Tompkins, yes, Allen, yes. Motion carried.

3. Recreation & Senior Services - for the purchase of a Vizio M Series 80" TV and Kanto TV Mount from Costco in the total amount of \$4,069.98.

Councilman Tompkins noted that an 80" TV is humungous and that he did some research on Google and thought maybe a 65" TV would be better fitting and less expensive. Noted that a projection TV could be purchased for \$1,000. Noted he went to the Senior Center and does agree that the TV needs to be replaced but does not think it needs to be 80". Noted that there is another TV that needs to be changed out there as well. Council President Allen questioned why he thought that the size was too big. A discussion ensued on the pixels and clarity of the TV. Council President Allen questioned if Councilman Tompkins could talk to Paula Kosko about the TV. Mayor Patriarca advised that he had this conversation with the Director in length and also asked why they would not go with a projector TV. Noted that Ms. Kosko had advised that it is not user friendly for daily use. Stated that the closest table to the TV is minimum 10 to 12 feet away from the TV. Council President Allen asked for the size of the current TV and it was noted that it is approximately 42". Mayor Patriarca noted the TV is used on a daily basis and is hard to see from the back of the room. Noted that the Seniors are using this facility daily. Councilwoman Trueblood questioned if the TV would be mounted to free up space on the floor. Mayor Patriarca noted that the projection TV also requires the room to be dark when using. Councilwoman Trueblood noted she feels our Seniors are very important to this Township and stated we value them.

Motion by Trueblood and Tompkins to approve the purchase of a Vizio 80" TV from Costco. Trueblood, yes; Tompkins, no; Allen, yes. Motion carried.

- a. Discussion and possible introduction of proposed Ordinance establishing salaries for certain employees and elected officials of the Township of Pemberton.

Council President Allen read the title of the ordinance. Councilman Tompkins commented on the minimum salaries being bumped up by large amounts and many Federal retirees did not get any cost of living increase. Mr. Gonzalez advised that Councilman Tompkins is correct in the minimum salaries were increased because they make no sense. Noted that the minimum salary for the Police Chief is \$50,000 and makes no sense when a police officer starting out after 3 months makes that amount and noted maximum salaries are in line with what those titles make in New Jersey. Advised he wanted to change the minimum salaries to more reasonably reflect what the pay rates are for the titles and are still much lower than other areas. It was noted that the everyone in these titles now are above the minimum and the changes to the maximum salaries are recommend to provide for the 2% contractual employees receive. Councilman Tompkins noted he is not going to vote on this. Mr. Bayer read from a section of the by-laws regarding the Council President relinquishing his chair for a vote if need be. Council President Allen questioned the removal of the TAG Coordinator and Registrar stipends. Mr. Gonzalez advised they were removed last year as they are reflected as part of those employees normal salaries.

Council President Allen advised he would relinquish his chair to Councilman Tompkins.

Motion by Trueblood and Allen to introduce Ordinance 2-2016 with a public hearing at the February 17, 2016 meeting. Trueblood, yes; Allen, yes; Tompkins, no. Motion carried.

Council President Allen requested his chair back from Councilman Tompkins. Councilman Tompkins released the chair back to Council President Allen.

#### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

**Mr. Bayer reported:** Nothing to report.

#### **MAYOR'S AND/OR BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

**Mayor Patriarca reported:** Advised on the last report he received from the Office of Emergency Management regarding the storm heading our way. Noted it is projected to hit

stronger along the East Coast along the Delaware River with a projection of at least 12 inches and along the shoreline about 8 inches and assumes we may fall somewhere in between. Noted that Public Works was gearing up and would be out there.

**COMMENTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

**Councilman Tompkins** - Questioned why there is one road out in Presidential Lakes by the firehouse with boulders in the middle of it blocking the road. Township Clerk Cosnoski explained that quite a few years ago there was an ordinance vacating Tennessee Trail between New York and Connecticut Roads and the boulders were placed there to allow a play area for roller skating, roller hockey and roller blading for the kids to play safely and has been that way for at least 15+ years. Councilman Tompkins asked if reflectors could be put in the boulders. Mayor Patriarca stated that was not a bad idea especially for people that don't know they are there. Councilman Tompkins stated he noticed that the streetlights on Trenton Road are working now and was thankful for that. Noted there was a Veteran's Advisory Committee and asked if he could continue the tradition as the Council's Liaison. Ms. Cosnoski advised there was nothing in the ordinance providing for a Council Liaison and was more a defacto thing that Ms. Scull became as she attended the meetings. A discussion ensued on the possibility of a change to the ordinance and Mr. Bayer stated he would review the current ordinance. Councilman Tompkins questioned the status of redevelopment with the recently purchased properties. Mr. Gonzalez advised that asbestos removal has been authorized and the next step will be demolition and stated he would report a schedule at the next meeting. Councilman Tompkins questioned if the other area businesses would be contacted as demolition would affect them. A discussion on the demolition schedule ensued. Asked everyone to be safe in the snow and ice.

**Councilwoman Trueblood** - Thanked everyone for coming out and asked everyone to be careful. Stated if you don't have to be out then don't go out and if you need help reach out to a neighbor. Asked all to have a good evening.

**Council President Allen** - Noted that Councilwoman Jackson sends her apologies for not being here but she had surgery and they hope to have her back soon. Noted that Councilwoman Stinney is back in the hospital and welcomes prayers and they hope she will be back soon as well. Asked for everyone to be careful.

Mr. Gonzalez noted that the firefighter's dinner was postponed due to the coming storm.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Amy P. Cosnoski, RMC, Township Clerk